THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

MRTPC Cases Against ATOs

363. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MRTPC has instituted cases against ATOs for a cartel to fix fares; and

(b) if so, what are the detailed reasons along with the reply received from ATOs?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Director General of Investigation and Registration of Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practice (MRTP) Commission had initiated suo moto investigation under the MRTP Act to find out whether there is any agreement or understanding among various Air Taxi Operators to have uniform fare structure as reported in some news papers.

Bomb Hoax and Hijacking Threats

364. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the number of bomb hoax and hijacking threats received and dealt during the last three years along with the special measures adopted by Government in this regard at each airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): The requisite information is given below:

	1991	1992	1993	1994 (Jan to June, 94)
No. of Bomb threats	327	421	509	149
No. of Hijacking threats	28	40	42	15

Measures taken to deal with such threats are as follows :

(i) Anti-hijacking and anti-sabotage security measures have been strengthened at airports in co-ordination with the concerned Airports Authority, Airports Security and air carrier concerned.

(ii) Airport Security Committees regularly monitor the implementation of security measures at all airports.

(iii) A revised Bomb Threat Drill has been evolved to deal with bomb threat calls.

(iv) Call tracing/recording facilities have been provided at important airports and Dog Squads are also being strengthened for detection of explosive devices.

Payment of rent by AI and IA

365. SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India and Indian Airlines have been paying monthly rents amounting to lakhs of rupees for their office in the capital not in use;

(b) if so, what is the total amount paid by Air India and Indian Airlines for the premises not utilised by the Airlines

and the period for which rent was paid for the unused premises;

(c) whether any inquiry into the matter has been conducted by Government; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air India had leased premises at Scindia House which are not in use since October, 1991 when the building was sealed by the municipal authorities for violation of building rules. Rent for the period October, 1991 to June, 1992 is under dispute and the case is pending before Delhi High Court. Rent amounting to Rs. 48,11,908 pertaining to the period July, 1992—August, 1993 has been paid and subsequent rents have not been paid.

Indian Airlines has been paying rent at the rate of Rs. 2.66 lakhs per month for the premises in Kanchanjunga Building even though these premises have-not been in use since June, 1992 following a fire in the building.

(c) and (d) Air India management has constituted a Committee to look into all aspects and recommend action towards the Scindia House premises. Indian Airlines is working out the modalities of vacating the Kanchanjunga premises. In view of these, a separate inquiry by Government, is not considered necessary.

Newspapers for IA passengers

366. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of newspapers in different languages bought by the Indian Airlines for the convenience of passengers; and

(b) the number of copies of each such news paper being purchased?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The details of the newspapers, and the number of copies bought, are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

List of Newspapers placed on Board Indian airlines flights

Sl. No.	Name of Newspaper	No. of copies per day
1	Indian Express	1185
2	The Times of India	931
3	The Hindu	884
4	The Economic Times	431
5	Financial Express	256
6	The Statesman	337
7	The Hindustan Times	150
8	The Pioneer	100
9	The Independent	30
10	The Telegraph	215
11	The Observer of Business & Politics	80
12	Business Standard	75
13	Hundu—Business Line	211
14	Patriot	90
15	The Asian Age	200
16	National Herald	65
17	The Tribune	15
18	Free Press Journal	86
19	Sunday Mail (English) (Only on Sunday)	87
20	Evening News	485
21	Observer	132
22	Daily	137
23	Deccan Herald	90